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CLASSIFICATION

25X1

COUNTRY Polish-occupied Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1

TOPIC 1. Military Installations in Elbing.

2. Prison in Stargard.

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT prior to August 1950

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 April 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE BUT
DO NOT CIRCULATE

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Elbing.

1. Barracks installations, which were not destroyed during the war, were located on the northeastern perimeter of Elbing (Q 55/Y 90), on both sides of ul. Krolewiecka, formerly Koenigsbergerstrasse.
2. Up to August 1949, a barracks installation on the southeast side of Koenigsbergerstrasse was occupied by Polish infantrymen who were armed only with rifles and machine guns. The enlisted personnel wore khaki-colored uniforms, the officers had four-cornered Polish caps without colored cap ribbons. The enlisted personnel usually wore field caps. (1)
3. Another barracks installation on the northwest side of Koenigsbergerstrasse quartered troops who wore khaki-colored uniforms with red, yellow and dark-blue cap ribbons. Tank troops wearing blue-gray uniforms were observed for the first time in May 1949. (2) Units moving out were observed to be equipped with truck-drawn short-barreled guns which had pneumatic tires and were usually covered with tarpaulins. About five tanks of two types were seen in the barracks area. Three tanks of the first type had large bogie wheels without track-supporting rollers, a revolving turret on the forward section of the chassis, a gun with muzzle brake which projected beyond the rounded nose by 1 to 1 1/2 meters. Two tanks of the second type had six (six) bogie wheels and track-supporting rollers, a revolving turret on the forward section of the chassis, a gun with muzzle brake, and a triangular nose. the tanks of the second type were heavier than those of the first type. (3)
4. The former Hindenburg Kaserne was located on the eastern perimeter of the city, about 100 meters north of ul. Stalina, formerly Hindenburgstrasse, leading toward Muchlhausen (Q 55/Z 10). The installation was not occupied by any troops. A political college was housed there.

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5. The former AAA cannonment located about 3 km east of the city, on the south side of the road to Luehlhausen, was razed as early as 1946.
6. Both sources stated that a heavy explosion occurred in 1943 in an ammunition depot located near the city, shortly after trains with artillery ammunition had been unloaded there. The location of this depot or the installation itself could not be described.
7. A Militia office was located in a former apartment house, the south side of which fronted on Hindenburgstrasse and its east side on ul Mickiewicz, formerly Trusostrasse. Sentries in front of the building carried rifles and wore blue-gray uniforms. One Hellmann was in charge of the office. Other Militia agencies were in Elbing.
8. The Elbing UB (Security Police) headquarters was located in the former home for deaf-mutes on the southeast side of Koenigsbergerstrasse, about 300 meters southwest of the barracks installations. UB offices and billets were located there. Another UB agency was in a former apartment house, the south side of which fronted on Al. Grundwaldzka, formerly Tannenbergallee, and its east side on the street leading to the railroad station.
9. Soviet military vehicles were occasionally observed in Elbing by both sources prior to the summer of 1949. The vehicles belonged to a Soviet Air Force unit stationed near the airfield. They were driven by air force troops. No troops or vehicles of the Soviet Army were observed in the streets of Elbing after 1946.

Political Prison in Stargard.

10. A political prison was located at 105 Red Army Street, Stargard (O 54/3 85), and has been used since 1945 for the detention of German and Polish political prisoners. Prior to November 1949, the guards wore brown uniforms like those of Polish troops. After that time, they wore dark green uniforms with silver-bordered light green collar patches and dark green service caps with light green piping and the Polish eagle emblem. (L)

25X1 [] Comments.

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- (1) To date, the 55th Inf Regt of the 16th Inf Div has been carried in Elbing. [] The regiment is vaguely confirmed by the present report.
 - (2) The red and blue cap ribbons indicate Polish Army and KBW (Internal Security) units, respectively. The meaning of the yellow ribbons has not been determined.
 - (3) The observation of tanks in Elbing can be considered as confirmation of the 10th Tank Regt which was last identified there in the summer of 1949. See []. The first tank described probably was a T-34 tank, although the muzzle brake does not answer its description. The second tank presumably was a JS-3 model whose prominent recognition feature is the triangular nose. JS-3 tanks were previously observed with the Polish Army.
 - (4) No previous information on uniforms of this type has been received from Poland.
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